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(Excerpt from: "The Japan Year Book 1941-42" pp 188,
188, 190 and 191.)

RELATIONS WITH GERMANY

Anti-Comintern Agreement

The Governments of Japan and Germany having decided on the fundamental policy of creating a common front against Communism, detailed negotiations were commenced during the latter part of July 1936, at Berlin between the Japanese Ambassador to Germany and the German authorities. The negotiations resulted in an agreement which was signed provisionally on October 23. After the approval of the Japanese Privy Council had been secured, the anti-Comintern pact was formally signed on November 25 between Viscount Kintomo Mushakoji, the Japanese Ambassador in Berlin, and Colonel von Ribbentrop, the German representative. The pact went into effect simultaneously with the signing.

The conclusion of this agreement with Germany attracted a great deal of public attention all over the world as the most important diplomatic step taken by Japan since her withdrawal from the League of Nations in 1933. On November 25, 1936, the Japanese Foreign Office issued a statement announcing the signing of the agreement and explaining its significance as follows:

I. Ever since its establishment the Communist International, or the so-called Comintern, with its headquarters at Moscow, has been engaged in all sorts of activities, greatly menacing the peace of the world, for the purpose of destroying the national and social structures in every country in pursuance of the fundamental policy of world revolution. At its Seventh Congress, held in the summer of last year, the Comintern decided on a policy of organizing a united front with the Second International, to oppose Fascism and imperialism and at the same time made it plain that the future objectives of Comintern activities were to be Japan, Germany and Poland. It further resolved to support the Chinese communist armies in order to fight Japan. The actual operations subsequently carried on by the Comintern have become extremely ingenious, rendering them all the more dangerous.

As to the extent to which the Comintern interferes with the internal affairs of all countries and exerts a baneful influence on the well-being of nations and the peace of the world, it is only necessary to recall the disturbances in Spain to realize its magnitude. At least those countries that lodged protests with the Government of the Soviet Union at the time of the Comintern congress certainly have full cognizance of the harmfulness of Comintern activities.

2. The Communist invasion has hitherto been more marked in the Orient, especially in China, than elsewhere. Outer Mongolia and Sinkiang have already suffered from its calamitous effects, and China proper is now being subjected to the depredations of the Communist armies. As a matter of fact, the activities of the Comintern in China have increased notably in vigor since its Seventh Congress.

In Manchoukuo also the Comintern through the Manchurian district committee of the Chinese Communist Party has been surreptitiously endeavoring to organize cells, to win over and instigate bandits and to direct the raids by partisan troops all over the country.

In Japan, the extreme leftist movement temporarily showed signs of decline after the Manchurian incident, but since the Seventh Congress of the Comintern it has again become energetic. It has crept into the channels of lawful agitation in conformity with the resolution of that congress and has launched a unified front movement that is intended to be the basis for revival of the Communist movement.

3. The Japanese Government, which, in order to safeguard Japan's immutable national policy and insure national security and to maintain everlasting peace in East Asia, has pursued a clearcut and consistent policy toward the Comintern, finds it necessary to take more rigorous measures of self-defense against the increased menace set forth above.

The organization and activities of the Comintern being of an international character, any program of counter-action should necessarily be based on international cooperation. Germany, ever since the establishment of the present regime in 1933, has put into execution drastic anti-Communist policies. Last year at the Seventh Congress of the Comintern, Germany and Japan were selected as the special objectives of Comintern operations. Thus Japan and Germany are placed in similar circumstances vis-a-vis the Comintern. Consequently the Japanese Government, as the first step in its defensive undertaking, conducted negotiations with Germany and concluded an agreement on November 25, to take effect immediately.

4. This agreement, the fundamental object of which is common defense against the destructive operations of the Comintern, contains provisions for the exchange of information regarding Comintern activities, for consultation and execution of joint invitations to third Powers. There is, besides, a supplementary protocol stipulating in concrete terms the manner in which the agreement is to be executed.

5. The Japanese Government is desirous of cooperating with as many Powers as possible for the purpose of perfecting its defensive measures against the Comintern menace, but for that purpose alone. It should be pointed out that in connection with, or behind, this agreement there exists no other agreement whatsoever, that the Japanese

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Government has no intention to form, or join in, any special international bloc for any other purpose and finally that the present agreement is not directed against the Soviet Union or any other specific country.

Cultural Cooperation

On November 25, 1938, the two countries entered into an agreement for furthering their traditional cultural relations.

RELATIONS WITH ITALY

An Understanding

The friendly relations between Japan and Italy were greatly improved by the avowed intention of the Italian Government to create a consulate-general in Manchukuo and the decision of the Japanese Government to close its legation in Ethiopia following the annexation of that territory by Italy. Taking advantage of the situation, negotiations were opened between the two Governments, concerned during the early part of November 1936, following the conclusion of the German-Japanese anti-Comintern pact, for the conclusion of an Italo-Japanese agreement.

The negotiations were aimed at the virtual recognition of Manchukuo by the Italian Government, the creation of a Japanese consulate in Ethiopia and the maintenance and promotion of the economic interest of Japan in that territory. Announcements were issued on December 28, 1936, both in Tokyo and Rome, concerning the Italo-Japanese agreement which took the form of an understanding.

Anti-Comintern Agreement

Italy entered the agreement on November 6, 1937. The account is given in the "Tripartite Agreement against the Comintern Activity," contained in this Chapter.

Cultural Cooperation

The relation of Japan and Italy was further strengthened with the conclusion of an agreement on cultural cooperation on March 23, 1939.

Italy Helping Japan

From the beginning of the China affair in 1937, Italy, understanding Japan's true motives, had collaborated with Japan along all lines. At the Brussels Conference of the Signatory Powers to the Nine Power Treaty, the Italian Government supported Japan most consistently and energetically. A supplementary agreement to the Italo-Japanese Treaty of Commerce relating to the Italian colonies was signed in 1937.

THE TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT AGAINST THE COMINTERN ACTIVITY

The German-Japanese Agreement against the Communist International which had been concluded on November 25, 1936, was reinforced by the

participation therein of Italy. The tripartite protocol was made public on November 6, 1937, when the Sino-Japanese conflict was in full swing, and the Nine-Power Conference was in session at Brussels. With the signing of the tripartite protocol the solid front that had been built against the Comintern activities both in Europe and Asia was further strengthened, making the communist bulwarks morally and materially weaker. Some indirect results of the tripartite agreement were the Japanese recognition of the Franco Government in Spain on December 1, 1937, mutual recognition between the Manchoukuo Government and the Franco Government on December 2, and the withdrawal of Italy from the League of Nations on December 11, thereby Italy concluding the dispute with the League regarding her claim on Abyssinia.

The gist of the statement of the Japanese Foreign Office concerning the conclusion of the Tripartite protocol published on November 6, 1937, and the English translation of the main clauses of the protocol are given below: (For the original text of the protocol see Appendix, the Japan Year Book, 1939-40)

At 11:00 a.m. (7:00 p.m. Tokyo time) today, November 6, the Protocol concerning the participation of Italy in the Japanese-German Agreement against the Communist International has been signed in Rome between the delegates of Japan, Germany and Italy, and has immediately come into effect.

Article 2 of the Agreement against the Communist International, which was concluded in Berlin between Japan and Germany on the 25th November 1st year, provides that the two countries should jointly invite participation of third Powers in the agreement. It is in accordance with this provision that the participation of Italy has been brought about, the country being as firmly determined as Japan and Germany to oppose the destructive operations of the Communist International.

Protocol between Japan, Germany and Italy.

The Imperial Government of Japan, the Government of Italy and the Government of Germany, in consideration of the fact that the Communist International is constantly endangering the peace and order of the civilized world in the Orient and the Occident, were convinced that only a close collaboration between all the Powers interested in the maintenance of peace and order can check and eliminate that danger. Italy, which since the establishment of the Fascist regime has combated that danger with inflexible determination, has decided to range herself against that common enemy and agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

Italy participates in the Agreement against the Communist International and subscribes to the Supplementary Protocol concluded on November 25, 1936, between Japan and Germany, texts of which are attached

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to the present Protocol.

ARTICLE 2

The three Powers signatory to the present protocol agree that Italy is to be considered as an original signatory of the agreement and the supplementary protocol mentioned in the preceding article, the signature of the present protocol being equivalent to signature of the original texts of the agreement and the supplementary protocol.

ARTICLE 3

The present protocol shall form an integral part of the agreement and the supplementary protocol mentioned above.

MANCHOUKUO AND HUNGARY'S ENTRANCE

On February 24, 1939, Manchoukuo and Hungary signed at Hsinking and Budapest respectively the Protocols for their participation in the Agreement for Safe-guarding against the Communist International with Japan, Germany and Italy.

Manchoukuo had been endeavoring in cooperation with Japan to eradicate Communism. Her international position had been greatly strengthened through formal recognition extended by Hungary, following a similar step taken by Salvador, Germany, Italy and Spain, and now with her participation in the Agreement it was further strengthened so that she may act with a greater conviction in her own power as an important factor in the formation of the new East Asiatic Order.

A faction of communist radicals under Bela Kuhn usurped the power of the Hungarian Government in 1919, by taking advantage of the confusion resulting from the World War, and attempted to form a socialistic league of nations by entering into a military alliance with the Soviet Union. But Hungary succeeded in suppressing the communistic revolution and has since continued to exert her utmost effort to combat the Comintern. When Hungary declared that she would join the Agreement, the Soviet Union recalled her Minister at Budapest, demanding at the same time the closure of the Hungarian legation at Moscow, in an attempt to check Hungary. Hungary, nevertheless joined the Agreement fully demonstrating her strong determination.

Spain's Entrance

Spain, reborn under the leadership of General Franco, formally participated in the Anti-Comintern Agreement on March 27. The Comintern, which failed utterly in its efforts to bolshevize Germany and Italy in previous years, laid the front line in Spain for the bolshevization of all Europe. As a result, Spain was divided into two opposing factions,

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and the faction led by General Franco, surmounting numerous difficulties finally occupied Barcelona early in 1939 and succeeded in pacifying the Catalonian sector. The Communist regime immediately collapsed, and Madrid finally capitulated on March 28. The Spanish civil war which began two and a half years ago was thus brought to a close, culminating in a decisive victory for General Franco. The Powers in the Anti-Comintern Front have early extended recognition to General Franco's Government and have been giving full support to that Government's work of subduing Communism.

「日本年鑑」

對獨關係

日本及ドイツ政府はコムニニズムに對して共同戦線を張るに於いての

基本方針を決定、詳細についての會談は一九三六年（昭和十一年）六月下旬、ベルリンに於て日本駐獨大使と獨乙當局との間に開始された。

この會談は續つて十月二十三日には假調印となり、日本福密院の承認が得られた後、十一月二十五日防共協定は日本駐獨大使武者小路公共と獨乙代表リツベントロツプ大佐との間に正式に調印され、調印と同時に效力を發した。ヘッラの職を調印を發した。

この對獨協定の締結は、一九三三年（昭和八年）日本の國際聯盟脫退以來、日本がとつた最も重大な外交手段として全世界の注目する所となつ

た。一九三六年（昭和十一年）十一月二十五日、日本外務省は協定調印並にその意義について次の如き聲明を發した。

「共產黨インターナショナル、即ち所謂コミンテルンはその結成以來本部をモスコーに定めて、世界革命の根本方針に従つて、各國の國家的社會的機構を破壊する目的を以てあらゆる種類の活動をして世界の平和を脅して來た。昨年の夏のコミンテルン第七回大會に於ては、コミンテルンは第二インターナショナルと共同戦線を張り、ファシズム及帝國主義に對抗する方針を決定、同時に將來に於けるコミンテルンの活動の目標は日本、ドイツ並にポーランドなることを明かにしたのである。更にコミンテルンは日本と戦う爲に支那共產黨を支援することに定めた。従つてコミンテルンによつて行はれた實行手段は巧妙と極め、爲に一層危険なものとなつた。

コミンテルンがあらゆる國の國內問題に手を入れ國家の安寧と世界平和の上に如何に有害なる影響を與へるかについて、スペインに於ける騷擾を見ればその力の大きなることがわかるものである。少くともコミンテ

ルン大會に際してソヴィエツト連邦政府に對して抗議をした國々はコミンテルンの活動が有害であることをいふきり充分認めてゐるのである。
ニ現在のところ共產黨の侵入は東洋、殊に支那に於て他地方より著しきものである。

外蒙及新疆は已にこの災厄を蒙つて居り、支那本土亦今や共產黨の劫掠する所となつて居る。支那に於けるコミンテルンの活動は事實第七回大會以來著しく活潑になつて來て居るのである。

滿洲國に於ても亦、コミンテルンは支那共產黨滿洲地區委員會を通じて秘かに細胞結成を行つて居り、之によつて匪賊を掌握し之を唆かし、全滿に亘つて遊撃隊を指導し侵略を行はんとしてゐる。

日本に於ては極左運動は滿洲事變後は一時的に落の徵候を見せたが、コミンテルン第七回大會以後またその運動は活潑になり、その大會の決議に基き、合法的擾亂を企て、統合戦線工作を開始し、これによつて共產黨運動再興の基盤を作ろうとして居る。

日本政府は、日本の不變の國策を擁護し、國家の安全を保障し東亞永

遠の平和を維持せんが爲にコミンテルンに對して明瞭且一貫せる方針を採つて來たのであるが今や、上述の如き脅威の加わるに對して自衛上更に一段厳なる手段を採る必要を認めるのである。

元來コミンテルンの組織並に活動なるものは國際性を帶びてゐる關係上之が對應策は如何としても國際的協力を必要とするのである。獨乙は一九三三年（昭和八年）現在の政權の樹立されて以來斷乎たる防共政策を實施し來たのであるが、昨年の第七回コミンテルン大會に於て、獨乙と日本とはコミンテルン運動の目標として特に異なつたのである。かくて日獨は遂にコミンテルンに對して同様の立場に置かるゝに到つた。その結果日本政府はその防衛策の第一歩として獨乙と會談を開き十一月二十五日協定を締結、この協定は直ちに效力を發生した。

四この協定の根本の目的はコミンテルンの破壊的工作に對する共同防衛なのであつて、その條項の中にはコミンテルン運動に關する情報の交換、第三國に對する參加の共同懸念についての商議實行等が含まれて居る。尙、附屬議定書に於て協定實行方法に就いての具体事項が定められて居る。

日本政府は出來得る限り多くの國家と協力することを望んでゐるが、その目的はコミンテルンの脅威に對する防衛手段を完全にする爲であつて全然他意はない。然してこの協定に關連し、或はこの協定の背後に、他の目的の爲に特別なる國際ブロックを形成し、或は斯るブロックに参加するが如き他の協定は何等存在せず、且この協定がソヴィエト連邦或は其他の特定の國家を對照としたものではないと云ふことを明記する。

文化事業に於ける協力

一九三八年（昭和十三年）十一月二十五日、日獨兩國はその傳統的の文化關係を助成する爲に協定を結んだ。

對 伊 關 係

兩國間の諒解

日伊の友好關係は、イタリアが滿洲國內に總領事館を設置すると云う公

約と、日本政府がエチオピアがイタリアに併合された後その公使館を開鎖することに決した事によつて非常な好轉を示したのであるが、その機を利用して、兩國は日獨防共協定の締結に續いて、一九三六年（昭和十一年）十一月上旬日伊協定締結の爲に會談が開れた。

この會談の目的はイタリア政府による滿洲國承認の實現並にエチオピアに於ける日本領事館の設置、エチオピアに於ける日本の經濟利權の維持並に増進にあつた。一九三六年十二月二十八日東京並にローマに於て日伊協定に關する聲明が發せられ、この協定は諒解の形式の下に行はれた

防 共 協 定

イタリアは一九三七年（昭和十二年）十一月六日防共協定に加はつた。これに關しては本章「コミンテルン運動に對する三國協定」の中に述べる。

文化事業に於ける協力

日伊關係は一九三六年（昭和十四年）三月二十三日の文化事業協調に関する協定の締結によつて更に強化された。

イタリーの日本援助

一九三七年（昭和十二年）支那事變の當初より、日本の直意を理解し日本に對して全面的に協力した。又九箇國條約參加國のブルユツセル會議に於てはイタリー政府は終始一貫力強く日本を支持して居る。一九三七年（昭和十三年）にはイタリー植民地に關する日伊通商條約に對する附加協定が調印された。

コミンテルン運動に對する三國協定

一九三六年（昭和十一年）十一月二十五日締結せられたる共產黨インターナショナルに對する日獨協定は、伊太利の參加によつて強化された。

一九三七年（昭和十二年）十一月六日三國議定書が公表されたが、當時は日支事變の眞最中であり、ブルユツセルに於ては九箇國會議が開催さ

れて居つた。三國議定書の調印によつて既にヨーロッパ及アジアに於て形成されて居つた鞏固なる防共戦線は更に一段強化され、共產黨陣營は精神的に物質的に力を殺がるに至つたのである。この三國協定の間接的結果として、日本は一九三七年（昭和十二年）十二月一日スペインのフランコ政府を承認し十二月二日には滿洲國政府とフランコ政府との間に相互の承認が行はれ、十二月十一日にはイタリアは國際聯盟を脱退し茲にイタリアはアビシニアに對するその要求に關して國際聯盟との紛争に終止符を打つた。

一九三七年（昭和十二年）十一月六日公表された三國議定書締結に關する日本外務省聲明の要領並に該議定書の主要條項の英譯は次の如くである。（議定書原文は一九三九一四〇日本年鑑附録參照）

今日十一月七日午前十一時（東京時間午前七時）共產黨インターナショナルに對する日獨協定にイタリアが参加せる事に關する議定書はローマに於て日、獨、伊各國代表間に調印され、同時に效力を發生した。

昨年十一月二十五日日獨間に締結を見たる防共協定第二條は兩國はこの

協定に對し第三國の參加することを共同して懲懲することを定めて居る
イタリ―が此の度參加したのはこの條項に従つたもので、イタリ―は共
産黨インターナショナルの破壊的運動防止には日獨と同様に堅き決意を
してゐるのである。

日獨伊三國議定書

日本帝國政府、イタリ―政府及ドイツ政府は共產黨インターナショナルが
常ニ東洋並に西洋に於て文明國の平和と秩序を危殆に陥らしめんとしつ
つあるに對し、この危險を防止除去せんが爲には、平和と秩序を維持せ
んとするあらゆる國家の緊密なる協力に依るより他なきことを確信する
イタリ―はそのファシスト政府の樹立以來不撓の決意を以てこの危險
に對し固ひ來れるか、今回茲にこの共同の敵を防ぐことに協力すること
を決意し次の如く協定する。

第一條

イタリ―は共產黨インターナショナルに對する協定に參加し、本議定書

にその本文を添付せる一九三六年（昭和十一年）十一月二十五日日獨間に締結せる附屬議定書に署名す。

第二條

本議定書に調印する三國は、イタリイを本協定の原調印國と見做し、本議定書の調印は本協定並に附屬議定書の原文に調印せるものと同等を認めることに同意する。

第三條

本議定書は前記協定並に附屬議定書の肝要なる部分となる。

滿洲國及ハンガリーの参加

一九三九年（昭和十四年）二月二十四日滿洲國及ハンガリーは夫々新京並にブダペストに於て日獨伊の共產黨インタナショナルに對する自衛協定に参加する議定書に調印した。

滿洲國は日本と協力して共產主義撲滅に努めて來たが、その國際的地位はサルヴァドル、ドイツ、イタリイ及スペインの承認に續き、ハンガリー

によつて更に承認された爲著しく強化され、今またこの協定に参加したことによりて更に一段鞏固となり、東亞新秩序の樹立に重要な構成分子としてその自力に更に大なる自信を以て活動することが出来るようになった。

一九一九年（大正八年）ベラ、クリーンの率いる過激なる共産黨の一派は世界大戰後の混亂に乗じてハンガリアの政權を奪取しソヴィエト聯邦と軍事同盟を結び社會主義國家聯盟を結成せんと企てたのであつた。

然るにハンガリーは共産主義的革命を制壓すること成功爾來力を爲してコミンテルンとの闘争を續けて來たのである。ハンガリーが防共協定に参加することを宣言した際ソヴィエト連邦はブダペスト駐在公使を本國に召還し、同時にモスコのハンガリー公使館の閉鎖を要求してハンガリーの参加を妨げんとしたのであつたが、ハンガリーはその強き決意を斷乎表明して協定に参加したのである。

スペインの参加

フランシスコ、フランコ將軍の統率の下に更生したスペインは五月二十

七日正式に防共協定に参加した。

これより先ドイツとイタリアとを赤化せんとして失敗した。コミンテルンは全ヨーロッパ赤化の目的でスペインに前線を張つたが、その結果、スペインは二つの反對陣營に分裂し、フランコ將軍の率いる一派は多くの難關を征服して、一九三九年（昭和十四年）の春遂にバルセロナを占領カタロニア地區の占定に成功した。共産黨政權は直ちに崩壊して三月二十八日にはマドリッドは遂に攻略された。二年半に亘るスペインの内亂はかくてその幕を閉じ、フランコ將軍の決定的の大勝に終つた。防共戦線の各國は夙にフランコ政府を承認し、共産主義制壓に對する該政府の事業に充分の支援を與えて來たのであつた。

私にこの證據書類として辯護文書

號を提出します。これは日本

年鑑（昭和十六年―十七年―一八八―一九一頁の抜萃であつて、昭和十一年十一月二十五日及昭和十二年十一月六日附、日獨防共協定及日獨伊三國防共協定に關する日本外務省の聲明を記載したものであります。

この證據書類を提出致したのは全世界一殊に支那及日本に於けるコミンテルンの活動の脅威によつて日本が止むなく、當初は獨乙と、後に至つて更にイタリー、滿洲國、ハンガリー及スペインとこの協定を結ぶに至つたこと示す爲であります。